In re Application of PATENT
Ulrich Braun Attorney Docket No.: VOSS1170

Application No.: 09/890,113 Filed: January 7, 2002

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Amendments to the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 2, 11, 12 and 19 as indicated in the Listing of Claims.

Please cancel claims 4, 6 and 16 without prejudice.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- (Currently Amended) A device for a urine separating toilet, said toilet comprising a urine
 outlet for water-free disposal of urine and a faecal outlet for disposal of bowl contents
 during flush operation separately collecting and draining faeces and urine, a toilet bowl,
 and a toilet seat, said device comprising:
 - a) a device for opening the urine outlet if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward, and
 - b) a device for closing the urine outlet if the user rises after the opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward, and
 - e) a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl when the urine outlet is closed, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet can be are transported with flushing water and drained by the force of gravity into to-the faecal outlet when the urine outlet is closed tight, wherein no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet, and

wherein no partition wall is located between the urine outlet and the faecal outlet, and/or wherein no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet, but all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet.

(Currently Amended) A device according to claim 1, wherein the device comprises a
feature for blocking a flushing valve if a user sits down on the toilet seat or tips the toilet
seat backward, said feature releasing the flushing valve if the user rises or tips the toilet
seat downward.

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- 3. (Canceled)
- 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Previously Presented) A device according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the toilet bowl shows protrusions at the inner surface to guide the urine into the urine outlet.

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- 6. (Canceled)
- 7. (Withdrawn) A device according to claims 1 or 2, wherein the faecal outlet is designed as a vacuum drain.
- 8. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 2, wherein the inner surface of the toilet bowl is equipped with a dirt and water rejecting nano surface layer.
- 9. (Withdrawn) A method for operating a urine separating toilet comprising:
 - a) opening a urine outlet if a user sits down upon a toilet or a toilet seat or tips the toilet seat backward,
 - b) closing of the urine outlet if the user rises or tips the toilet seat downward, and
 - c) flushing the entire toilet bowl when the urine outlet is closed, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet can be transported with flushing water to the faecal outlet.
- 10. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 9, wherein a flushing valve is blocked if a user sits down upon the toilet or tips the toilet seat backward, and the flushing valve is released again if the user rises or tips the toilet seat downward.

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- 11. (Currently Amended) A device for a urine separating toilet, said toilet comprising a urine outlet for water-free disposal of urine and a faecal outlet for disposal of bowl contents during flush operation separately collecting and draining faeces and urine, a toilet bowl, and a toilet seat, said device comprising:
 - a) the urine outlet in front of and hydraulically connected to the faecal outlet, and

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- b) a device for opening the urine outlet if a user sits down on the toilet bowl, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward, and
- c) a device for closing the urine outlet if the user rises after opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward, wherein the inner surface of the toilet bowl is equipped with a dirt and water rejecting nano surface layer, and
- d) a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl, wherein solids that remain around or upon the closed urine outlet are transported with flushing water and drained into the faecal outlet with flushing water.
- 12. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 11, wherein the device comprises a feature for blocking a flushing valve if a user sits down on the toilet seat or tips the toilet seat backward, said feature releasing the flushing valve if the user rises or tips the toilet seat downward.
- 13. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 11 or 12, wherein no partition wall is located between the urine and faecal outlets.
- 14. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 11 or 12, wherein no liquids remain around or upon the closed urine outlet, and all liquids are drained by the force of gravity into the faecal outlet.
- 15. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the toilet bowl shows protrusions at the inner surface to guide the urine into the urine outlet.

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16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) A device according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the faecal outlet is designed as a vacuum drain.

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18. (Canceled)

- 19. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) A device for a urine separating toilet, said toilet comprising a urine outlet for water-free disposal of urine and a faecal outlet for disposal of bowl contents during flush operation separately collecting and draining faeces and urine, a toilet bowl, and a toilet seat, said device comprising:
 - a) a device for opening the urine outlet if a user sits down on the toilet, sits down on the toilet seat, or tips the toilet seat backward,
 - b) a device for closing the urine outlet if the user rises after opening of the urine outlet or tips the toilet seat downward,
 - c) a device for flushing the entire toilet bowl, wherein solids are transported into the faecal outlet with flushing water, and
 - d) a device for draining the faecal outlet with under-pressure, wherein the drainage can be caused by activating flushing according to step c).
- 20. (Withdrawn) A device for a urine separating toilet according to claim 19, wherein the device comprises a feature for blocking a flushing valve if a user sits down on the toilet or tips the toilet seat backward, said feature releasing the flushing valve if the user rises or tips the toilet seat downward.